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steerage passengers, of which 813 were already occupied by passengers who had embarked at Genoa and Naples.

At Palermo there were inspected and passed 248 steerage passengers. One case of hernia was advised not to embark. On examining the figures it was found that there were more steerage passengers than there were places. The captain of the ship was informed about the matter, and he ordered at once that the surplus should be disembarked.

At Palermo many intending emigrants presented themselves for inspection. Among these many cases of trachoma and other diseases were found which would prevent their admittance to the United States. Many of the emigrants were very thankful for the opportunity afforded them to get advice on the probability of their being able to land in the United States without going to the expense of making the journey in order to find out. The trip to Palermo was made on the steamship which was to carry the Palermo emigrants to the United States. During the voyage one of the emigrants who had embarked at Genoa became insane. On my advice this case was disembarked at Palermo.

Respectfully,

VICTOR G. HEISER,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

JAPAN.

No further cases of plague in Osaka Fu—Total cases of plague in Japan from November, 1899, to January 31, 1901.

KOBE, JAPAN, *March 11, 1901.*

SIR: My report of January 31 last was sent to you on the steamship *City of Rio de Janeiro*, and has, therefore, been lost with the mails, so I am mailing a copy:

JANUARY 31, 1901.

SIR: On the 24th instant I notified Mr. Lyon, United States consul of Osaka and Hiogo, that there being no further case of plague in Osaka Fu, I thought it quite prudent to remove the restrictions placed on the shipments of merchandise from Osaka Fu. This was accordingly done. On the 25th instant I received through Dr. Stuart Eldridge, of Yokohama, a copy of your cablegram "pass oranges." The shippers were notified on the same day.

In all there have been 223 cases of plague in Japan since its appearance in November, 1899. The following shows in what prefectures the disease has appeared: Hiogo Ken, 26; Osaka Fu, 157; Shidzuoka Ken, 20; Wakayama Ken, 17; Hiroshima Ken, 1; Fukuoka Ken, 1; Nagasaki Ken, 1.

Respectfully,

J. BUCKWILL FOWLER,
*Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.,
Sanitary Inspector, Kobe.*

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Bill of health for the steamship Tacoma temporarily withheld.

YOKOHAMA, JAPAN, *March 13, 1901.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that an appointment having been made with the agency of the Northern Pacific Steamship Company yesterday morning, for the inspection of the steamship *Tacoma*, at 4 o'clock, p. m., of the same day, the ship being advertised to leave at daylight this morning, upon going aboard I found that 2 members of the crew, not including the captain, and 1 Chinese passenger from Hongkong had been permitted to go ashore, without reason, and that their whereabouts and probable time of return were unknown.

As I have for some time found similar trouble with ships of this line, against the occurrence of which I have repeatedly protested, I left the ship appointing 10 o'clock this morning for inspection. I find no measures of any avail in inducing steamer agents and officers to appreciate the necessity and rigidity of sanitary inspection except the withholding of the bill of health until the law is complied with, though I am naturally loath to proceed to extremities involving cost and delay unless forced to do so.

Respectfully,

STUART ELDRIDGE,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

YOKOHAMA, JAPAN, *March 13, 1901.*

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that, since my report of March 6, no case of quarantinable disease has occurred in Japan so far as my knowledge extends.

I was yesterday compelled to withhold bill of health for steamship *Tacoma* until this morning on account of absence of crew and passengers at hour duly appointed for inspection. I forward a full report of the matter herewith.

Respectfully,

STUART ELDRIDGE,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

MEXICO.

Report from Vera Cruz.

VERA CRUZ, MEXICO, *April 2, 1901.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report for the week ended March 30, 1901: Thirty-nine deaths are recorded for the week. Fourteen were from pulmonary tuberculosis and 2 from pernicious fever. The municipal records give the last case of yellow fever as occurring on February 16.

The sanitary laws of this city require that infectious and contagious diseases be reported to the health department, and a heavy fine is fixed as the penalty for failure to comply with the law. The quarantine service of the port and the city health department are combined, and the work is conducted under the supervision of Drs. Iglesias and del Rios, both competent and experienced gentlemen. I am indebted to them for much information on sanitary matters connected with this city. They have a small disinfecting plant fitted up with one steam chamber (French pattern) and a number of modern formaldehyd autoclaves. While this plant is a small one, they have managed, nevertheless, to disinfect infected houses in the city, the clothing and bedding from such buildings, and considerable passenger baggage.

The Spanish trans-Atlantic liner steamship *Ciudad de Cadiz* sailed March 25 for Havana, New York, and Europe with a large number of passengers. I was not able to issue health certificates, as the vessel sailed a few hours after my arrival in Vera Cruz.

During the week 8 vessels were inspected and given bills of health.

Respectfully,

D. E. DUDLEY,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.